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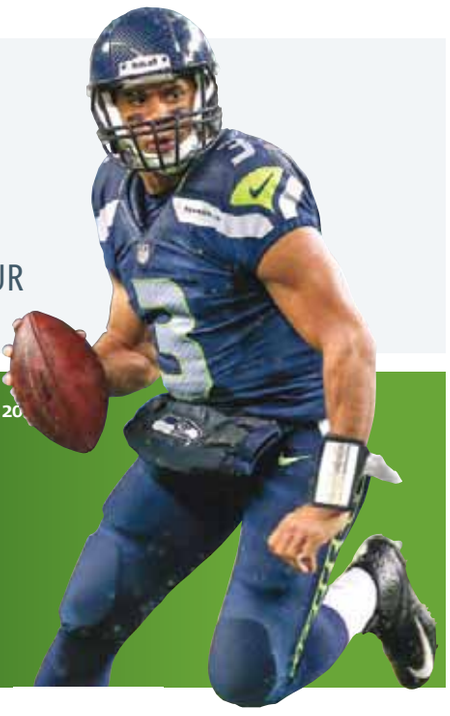
SEAHAWKS QB RUSSELL WILSON LEADS HIS TEAM INTO A CLASH WITH THE REDSKINS IN ONE OF FOUR NFL PLAYOFF GAMES THIS WEEKEND PAGE 18



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Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence, second from left, is helped back to her teepee after greeting and welcoming supporters as they visit her on Victoria Island in Ottawa on Thursday. Spence is in her fourth week of a hunger strike calling on Harper to meet and discuss First Nations issues. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

#IdleNoMoreTime?

Hunger strike. Spence needs action from Ottawa within 72 hours, spokesperson says

The hunger-striking chief of northern Ontario's poverty-racked Attawapiskat First Nation can't wait three more weeks for the prime minister to meet with aboriginal leaders, a spokesman said Thursday.

Theresa Spence, who's been subsisting on liquids since Dec. 11 to prod Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. David Johnston into talks with aboriginal leaders, is weak with hunger and needs the meeting to take place within the next 72 hours, said spokesman Danny Metatawabin.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, has urged Harper and Johnston to meet chiefs on Jan. 24 — the one-year anniversary of Harper's summit with First Nations.

"First Nations across this country have been voicing concern and frustration with a broken system that does not address long-standing disparities between First Nations and the rest of Canada," Atleo said in a news release.

"There is no excuse for inaction either by First Nations leadership or by Canada."

But Spence's failing health won't allow her to wait that long, Metatawabin said.

Spence met Thursday with regional chiefs to establish a united front and clarify their demands in order to better expedite a meeting and call a halt to the hunger strike, which has been attracting support across Canada.

Alvin Fiddler, deputy grand chief of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, a regional advocacy network, said First Nations leaders need to clarify their concerns in order to resolve their dispute with Ottawa.

Liberal aboriginal affairs critic Carolyn Bennett, who also sat down Thursday with Spence, described her as weak but in good spirits.

Spence has been demanding discussions with Harper and Johnston about revisiting the treaty rights of First Nations, although the scope of her demands has left government officials puzzled.

Harper has not agreed to meet Spence, but Aboriginal Affairs Minister John Duncan has tried repeatedly to speak with her, to no avail.

In recent letters to Spence and a letter to Atleo in November, Duncan has proposed a First Nations–federal-government working group on treaty implementation and a separate discussion on comprehensive claim negotiations.

"Our government remains committed to creating the conditions for healthier, more self-sufficient First Nation communities," Duncan's spokesman said in a statement Thursday.

"We continue to believe that the best way to make progress on our shared priorities — education, housing, clean drinking water and economic opportunity — is by working together."

But since the exchange of letters and promise for treaty talks in November, tension has escalated. Grassroots protests under the Idle No More banner have broken out across the country and there have been several blockades of transportation corridors.

Spence has warned there will be more unrest, including "countrywide economic disturbances," unless Harper meets her.

Atleo, however, stressed the need for peaceful protest and concrete solutions.

"It's time for the Crown to honour its relationship and responsibilities to First Nations, starting with the recognition and affirmation of our inherent and treaty rights,"he said.

"It's time for all First Nations citizens and their leaders to drive solutions."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LRT-station design raises public-safety concern: Critic

Switch. LRT critic wonders why station designs changed

STEVE COLLINS
ottawa@metronews.ca

A change to LRT-station plans could compromise rider safety, says a local community activist who participated in earlier LRT planning meetings.

Eric Darwin, who served on a public-advisory committee for the light-rail project, was surprised to see that plans for open mezzanines, which allow a clear view of the platforms below, didn't make it into Rideau Transit Group's winning design.

"It's a bit alarming when you go to meeting after meeting that emphasizes something as being important such as having a mezzanine that's visible to the station platforms ... and then when the design comes back it's suddenly a very different design that I think is much inferior."

Earlier city plans included the mezzanines, which Darwin said he and his committee colleagues supported for safety reasons.

"You could see from the mezzanine levels down to the lower levels, so there's supervision on the track level. People don't feel they're waiting alone wherever they are."

The lack of clear sightlines in designs for stations like Downtown West worries Darwin: "You can't supervise the entire length of the platform, so you have no comfort level going down as to who's already down there. These were supposed to be important factors and they're gone."

Quote

"You can't supervise the entire length of the platform, so you have no comfort level going down."

Eric Darwin, who served on a LRT public-advisory committee, thinks the final plans compromise rider safety

While some light-rail stations like Tunney's Pasture, top photo, will still feature open mezzanines, the feature has disappeared from plans for others like Downtown West, bottom photo. CONTRIBUTED

Cell-block strip search appropriate: Constable

Sgt. Steven Desjourdy with the Ottawa police enters the Elgin Street courthouse on Sept. 27, 2012. JOE LOFARO/METRO

There was nothing inappropriate about the forced strip search of a female prisoner on the floor of an Ottawa police cell block, a police witness testified Thursday in the sexual assault trial of Sgt. Steven Desjourdy.

Const. Cameron Downie testified in the trial for a second and final day on Thursday. Desjourdy, who could be seen on video cutting off the woman's shirt and bra with scissors from behind in the presence of three other male officers and one female officer, has pleaded not guilty.

Downie said the woman was struggling with police at the booking table and her hand became loose from a handcuff before she mule kicked Special Const. Melanie Morris in the right leg.

Downie said in court he'd never seen a strip search carried out as it was on Sept. 6, 2008, but he said Desjourdy didn't do it to humiliate or punish the woman.

In a police statement, Desjourdy wrote he removed part of the woman's clothes to prevent a possible suicide and to clear her before lodging her in the cell.

Crown lawyer Chris Webb argued there was no indication that the woman — who can't be named — was suicidal.

"Did you form an opinion that she was suicidal?" said Webb.

"No," replied Downie.

The constable said he has never asked anyone arrested for public intoxication to be strip searched.

The trial resumes Friday.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Imposed teacher contract will deepen strife: Unions

'Dangerous precedent.' Bill that gave province power to 'do anything' seen as unfair by unions: Professor

GRAHAM LANKTREE
graham.lanktree@metronews.ca

Imposing a contract on teachers to end strikes will only deepen labour strife in Ontario schools, said legal experts and unions Thursday after an announcement the province will dictate a new contract for educators.

"What I'm hearing from our members is that it won't be business as usual," said Jan Fraser, first vice-president of the Ottawa-Carleton Elementary Teachers' Federation. "I don't see this ending. I don't think you treat people the way they have and expect them to give their own time and do all they do."

Soon after Education Minister Laurel Broten wielded the power granted to her under Bill 115 to end work-to-rule action that has been brewing since September, Fraser said teachers will move forward on their own without union direction.

"The biggest thing I think you will see our teachers doing is cutting out extra work that involves the ministry," she said.

Broten trumpeted the fact that the controversial bill will soon be repealed and that 55,000 school-support staff, including custodians and guidance counsellors, are set to sign a contract negotiated before the Dec. 31 deadline, but CUPE sounded less pleased.

"It sets a dangerous, dangerous precedent in Ontario," said Fred Hahn, president of CUPE Ontario. "This is not collective bargaining like we have ever known it. This is the first time in the history of our province when any government has overstepped the limits of power in an unprecedented way."

Hahn said the union will continue to stand with teachers in opposition to the government's tactics and will forge ahead with a legal challenge to the bill.

University of Ottawa labour-law professor Pamela Chapman agrees with the challenge. "I don't think I understand how they thought intervening with collective bargaining would be seen to be fair. It has had the reverse effect."

Ontario Education Minister Laurel Broten leaves the podium after speaking to reporters in Toronto on Thursday. Broten announced the province would dictate a new contract for teachers, following months of negotiations with teachers' unions. FRANK GUNN/THE CANDIAN PRESS

Drinks, dancing and dinosaurs at Museum of Nature parties

Scenesters will soon have a chance to enjoy a cocktail next to a tarantula or dance the night away among art installations in the Museum of Nature's glass atrium when the institution launches a series of dance parties at the end of the month.

"It's for people interested in the museum but who don't feel comfortable when there are a lot of kids around," said Cynthia Iburg, senior educator at the Canadian Museum of Nature, who came up with the Nature Nocturne parties. "You can't make the same jokes. People want to have fun with their friends."

DJ TDot, set up in the museum's glass tower, will pump beats into the building Jan. 25 as a team of young museum botanists recently returned from the Arctic swap tales of adventure from 8 p.m. to midnight and a number of artists from Ottawa's Nuit Blanche transform the museum.

"There will be all sorts of neat experiences that won't be there through the day," said Iburg. "They're all interactive or collaborative in some way," she said, adding that the dinosaur room will be taken over by digital video group Luminartists.

Cynthia Iburg, senior educator at the Canadian Museum of Nature, will bring in the beats at a monthly series of dance parties at the museum starting Jan. 25. GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

Bars and a VIP lounge in the insect room will be set up throughout the castle-like building to attract young professionals who don't often visit the space.

"The idea is that every month we want to create a new experience for people," said Iburg, noting food that can be eaten on the run will be provided.

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

Trial. Boone acquitted on attempted-murder charges

At a loss for whom to believe, a judge acquitted Steven Paul Boone Thursday of four sex-related offences involving a developmentally delayed Ottawa man.

Justice Bonnie Warkentin said in her ruling Boone was not guilty of attempted murder, attempted aggravated sexual assault, attempting to administer a noxious substance and sexual assault. The judge found him guilty of one count of breach of probation.

On Oct. 31, 2012, an Ottawa jury in a separate trial found Boone guilty on nine charges, including attempted murder, aggravated sexual assault and administering a noxious substance.

The Crown in the second trial sought to prove Boone engaged in sexual activity without the consent of a 21-year-old man in April 2010 and without disclosing his HIV-positive status.

Warkentin said Boone's evidence lacked credibility "in its entirety" in part because of evidence presented at his first trial last fall.

The judge assessed evidence from the complainant, which the Crown argued should be treated as from a child witness.

Steven Boone HANDOUT

Warkentin said his evidence was "confusing" and she was not convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that there was attempted anal intercourse.

"I do not believe that (the complainant) intended to mislead the police or this court; however, his evidence was, on the whole, inconsistent on significant points regarding the sexual interactions that occurred," said Warkentin.

Boone will be remanded into custody pending a dangerous-offender assessment.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Rape and murder charges laid against accused in gang rape

Global outrage. Protesters gather in New Delhi and around the world to push for stricter laws against sexual assaults in India

Savita Verma, a mother from Brampton, wipes a tear as she joins a protest outside the Indian Consulate in Toronto on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Backwards justice

Many cases in India never get to court because of intense social pressure against families reporting sexual assaults, which are often blamed on the victims.

- When women do report rapes, police often refuse to file charges and pressure the victims to reach a compromise with their attackers.
- The 23-year-old was attacked Dec. 16 after boarding a bus with a male companion after watching an evening showing of the movie Life of Pi at a mall.

Five men accused of raping a university student for hours on a bus as it drove through India's capital were charged Thursday with murder, rape and other crimes that could bring them the death penalty.

The attack on the 23-year-old woman, who died of severe internal injuries over the weekend, provoked a fierce debate across India about the routine mistreatment of females and triggered daily protests demanding action.

There have been signs of change since the attack. Rapes, often ignored, have become front-page news, politicians have called for tougher laws, including the death penalty and chemical castration for rapists, and the government is examining wide-scale reforms in the criminal justice system's handling of sexual assaults. Activists say the tragedy could mark a turning point for women's rights.

In a nation where court cases often linger for years, the government set up a special fast-track court Wednesday to deal with crimes against women, and that is where the charges against the five men were filed Thursday evening. The government said it planned to open four more of those courts in the city.

Prosecutor Rajiv Mohan filed a case of rape, tampering with evidence, kidnapping, murder and other charges against the men. The charge sheet was not released and he asked for a closed trial. A hearing was set for Saturday.

The men charged were Ram Singh, the bus driver; his brother Mukesh Singh, who cleans buses for the same company; Pavan Gupta, a fruit vendor; Akshay Singh, a bus washer; and Vinay Sharma, a fitness trainer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Icelandic girl fighting state to keep her name

Call her the girl with no name.

A 15-year-old is suing the Icelandic state for the right to legally use the name given to her by her mother. The problem? Blaer, which means "light breeze" in Icelandic, is not on a list approved by the government.

Like a handful of other countries, including Germany and Denmark, Iceland has official rules about what a baby can be named. In a country comfortable with a firm state role, most people don't question the Personal Names Register, a list of 1,712 male names and 1,853 female names that fit Icelandic grammar and pronunciation rules and that officials maintain will protect children from embarrassment. Parents can take from the list or apply to a special committee that has the power to say yay or nay.

In Blaer's case, her mother said she learned the name wasn't on the register only after the priest who baptized the child later informed her he had mistakenly allowed it.

Blaer Bjarkardottir, 15, left, and her mother, Bjork Eidsdottir, are photographed outside a court building in Reykjavik. Bjarkardottir is bringing legal action against the Icelandic government to allow her to use her name, which is not on the list of 1,853 government-approved names. ANNA ANDERSEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I had no idea that the name wasn't on the list ..." said Bjork Eidsdottir, adding she knew a Blaer whose name was accepted in 1973. This time, the panel turned it down on the grounds that the word Blaer takes a masculine article, despite the fact that it was used for a female character in a novel by Iceland's revered Nobel Prize-winning author Halldor Laxness.

Given names are even more significant in Iceland than in many other countries — everyone is listed in the phone book by their first names. Surnames are based on a parent's given name. Even the president, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, is addressed simply as Olafur.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drawing a line

"I can understand a clause to protect children from being named something like 'Dog poo,' but it is strange that an adult cannot change his name to what he truly wants." Icelandic artist Birgir Orn Thoroddsen

First shake. Baby reaching out of womb to grab doctor captured in viral photo

It's a moment Dr. Allan Sawyer will never forget — the newborn he was helping deliver reached out of her mother's womb and grabbed his finger.

Now he has the evidence hanging framed on his office wall, a thank you from the parents and the first viral photograph of 2013.

"It's just one of those miraculous moments," Sawyer's receptionist Tracy told Torstar News Service on Thursday.

Alicia and Randy Atkins delivered the picture on Boxing Day and then posted it on Alicia's company Facebook page, A Classic Pin-Up. Since then, thousands of people around the world have seen and shared it.

Alicia is the photographer in the family, but Randy snapped the picture after Sawyer told him, "Hey, she's grabbed my finger."

"My daughter reached up out of my stomach and grabbed the Doctor's finger and my hubby caught this special moment," Alicia said on the page.

"Truly amazing. I am in awe of this photo."

Since then, "the photo has gone completely viral worldwide, and as you can imagine, we are a little overwhelmed," she said.

The Glendale, Ariz., couple named the baby Nevaeh, which is heaven in reverse.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The first viral photo of 2013 features a newborn girl who reached out and grabbed Dr. Allan Sawyer's finger while he was delivering her. CONTRIBUTED

Unwanted pregnancy

Man who poked holes in condoms loses sexual-assault appeal

A Nova Scotia man convicted of sexual assault for trying to trick his girlfriend into becoming pregnant by poking holes in her condoms has lost his appeal.

Craig Jaret Hutchinson of Shelburne County was given an 18-month prison sentence in December 2011 after his judge-only trial heard that he pricked his girlfriend's condoms with a pin in 2006 so she would get pregnant and not break up with him.

The Halifax-area woman became pregnant and had an abortion, but she later suffered an infection of her uterus that was treated with antibiotics.

Hutchinson later filed an appeal, arguing that the Nova Scotia Supreme Court's sentence was harsh and excessive and that the woman voluntarily consented to having sex with him.

But in a 4-1 majority decision, the court said the sentence was not unfit and the trial judge was correct to conclude that the woman did not consent to having unprotected sex.

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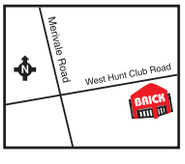

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Switzerland

3 gunned down in village streets

A shooting in southern Switzerland has left three women dead, two men wounded and highlighted the ease of access to firearms in the gun-loving nation.

The suspect, a 33-year-old unemployed man living on disability, opened fire from his apartment and pursued people in the street Wednesday night in the village of Daillon, authorities in the Swiss canton (state) of Valais said Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Utah

Elvis Presley too hot for 2013

A parent who was upset about Elvis Presley songs in a high school drama prompted educators in Utah to cancel the production, deeming it too sexually suggestive.

Presley's lyrics and a scene suggesting cross-dressing in All Shook Up were deemed too offensive for Herriman High School. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York

Paper needs guns after outing users

A New York state newspaper that created a public outcry when it published the names and addresses of residents with handgun permits is being protected by armed guards.

Journal News last month published online maps with the names and addresses of pistol permit holders in two counties it covers. It sought the public records after the school shooting in nearby Newtown, Conn.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

Teens cuffed for drugging parents

Two California teenagers were arrested after they gave one of the girl's parents milkshakes spiked with prescription sleeping pills so she could use the Internet past her curfew, police said.

The 15-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old friend were taken to Juvenile Hall.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students attend their first day at Sandy Hook clone

Newtown shooting. School in neighbouring town made to look as close as possible to old school — plus security

Signs welcome more than 400 students to the former Chalk School in Monroe, Conn. JESSICA HILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Classes resumed Thursday for the students of the Newtown, Conn., school where a gunman last month killed 20 children and six adults in the second-largest school shooting in U.S. history.

With their school still being treated as a crime scene, the more than 400 students of Sandy Hook Elementary School attended classes in neighbouring Monroe.

Returning students, teachers and administrators were met by a large police presence outside their new school, an overhauled middle school that had been shuttered for nearly two years. Several officers guarded the entrance and checked IDs of parents dropping off children.

Law-enforcement officers guarding the new school called it "the safest school in America."

Students found the same chairs and desks, when possible. Their classroom walls were painted the same colours and hung with the same pictures. Other details, such as the location of bookshelves and cubby holes, were replicated as much as possible.

The school district said parents who wanted to be close to their children were welcome to visit and stay in classrooms or an auditorium.

Newtown superintendent Janet Robinson said officials would do their best to make the students feel at ease.

"We will be doing a normal day," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Niggling doubt

"It's very hard to turn off the little 'What if?'.... Dec. 14 started out as a normal day, too."

Sarah Caron, 32, parent of two kids scarred by the shooting, upon seeing them go back to school

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Washington, D.C. Google chief's North Korean visit 'unhelpful,' according to U.S. government

The U.S. government is voicing opposition to a planned North Korea visit by Google's executive chairman.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said Thursday the timing of the visit by Eric Schmidt and former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson is "unhelpful."

People familiar with the plans tell The Associated Press the trip will happen as early as this month.

Last month, North Korea shot a satellite into space on the back of a three-stage rocket in defiance of a UN ban. Washington and others decried it as a covert test of ballistic missile technology and are seeking UN Security Council action against Pyongyang.

Nuland said Schmidt and Richardson were "well aware" of the U.S. government's views. She said they would be travelling as private citizens and carrying no messages from Washington. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Overseas accounts

Swiss bank to pay $57.8M in U.S. tax evasion case

Switzerland's oldest bank became the first foreign bank to plead guilty in the United States to tax charges when it admitted Thursday that it helped U.S. clients hide more than $1.2 billion US from the Internal Revenue Service. Wegelin & Co. had been accused of helping clients conceal large sums in overseas accounts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GOLD
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Natural gas: $3.19 US (-4¢)
Dow Jones: 13,391.36 (-21.19)

Mother Nature racks up $65B in insurance payouts for 2012

Disaster toll. Weather events led by Superstorm Sandy cost the industry dear, but total is down from record set during earthquake-ridden 2011

A man walks past a small commercial strip that burned down during Superstorm Sandy in the Rockaways section of New York City on Wednesday. The storm cost insurers $25 billion US in payouts. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Natural disasters cost insurers $65 billion US last year, with the United States accounting for nine-tenths of the bill and Superstorm Sandy prompting payouts of $25 billion, a leading insurance company said Thursday.

However, Munich Re AG said that the total insured losses worldwide were down from a record $119 billion in 2011, when devastating earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand cost the industry dear.

The company said total economic costs in 2012 from natural disasters worldwide — including uninsured losses — amounted to $160 billion, compared with the previous year's $400 billion.

Sandy, which battered eastern coastline areas at the end of October, killed at least 125 people in the United States and 71 people in the Caribbean. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut were the hardest-hit U.S. states.

Munich Re estimated insured losses from Sandy at $25 billion and total losses at $50 billion, though it cautioned that the figures are "still subject to considerable uncertainty." That made it the year's most costly disaster — but several other events in the U.S. meant that the country accounted for 90 per cent of insured costs and 67 per cent of overall losses, the company said.

The lengthy drought that seared swathes of the United States last summer produced 2012's second-biggest insurance bill. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FORECAST FOR 2013: FERMENTING KIMYE & A JUICED HONEY BOO BOO

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

I spent my holiday honing my psychic skills. Here are my predictions for the year ahead:

1 **Deja vu.** This year's top reality show will feature a mother managing the careers of her daughters who, with no discernible talents, eclipse professional entertainers for roles and public attention as they date, marry and divorce rich celebrities. Hey, wait a minute ...

2 **And yet ...** Kim Kardashian will resist the temptation to repeat previous mistakes and enter hastily into marriage with Kanye West. She will publicly reveal her enlightenment regarding the seriousness of such commitment right before she announces that video cameras will be installed in her uterus to broadcast her pregnancy from within.

3 **Do not pass go.** Lindsay Lohan will go to prison. Not so much a "prediction," but I'm probably not wrong.

4 **Weed warnings.** Legalized marijuana will become a growth market and be sold, pre-rolled, in packages like cigarettes. Cautionary labels will read, "Song lyrics may seem more profound than they truly are," "Please refrain from making career-altering decisions while under the influence of this product" and "Dude, don't forget the Cheetos."

5 **Here she comes.** Honey Boo Boo Child, in a "go-go juice"-induced rage, will pummel a pageant adversary, and emerge as trailer-park queen-for-a-day. Endorsement deals will allow her to set aside funds for the therapy and new set of teeth she will eventually require.

6 **Jersey jacking.** Former Jersey Shore cast members will be kidnapped by terrorists and held hostage. A series of prolonged negotiations will be televised and the perpetrators will end up winning an MTV award.

7 **50 Shades of Stress.** Once the concept of BDSM is acclimatized into public consciousness by the novels of E. L. James, studies will show accelerated hair loss in fathers with daughters.

8 **Stellar sequels.** Disney will attempt to shake up the decaying Star Wars franchise by producing new chapters with elements that have proven successful for them in the past. In the new version, Luke Skywalker will be played by a mouse with a high-pitched voice, Darth Vader will be a large bulldog and R2D2 will be played by a member of the George W. Bush administration.

9 **RIM rocks.** The much-anticipated BlackBerry 10 will launch to critical acclaim, causing millions of consumers to say, "Gee, too bad I already bought the iPhone."

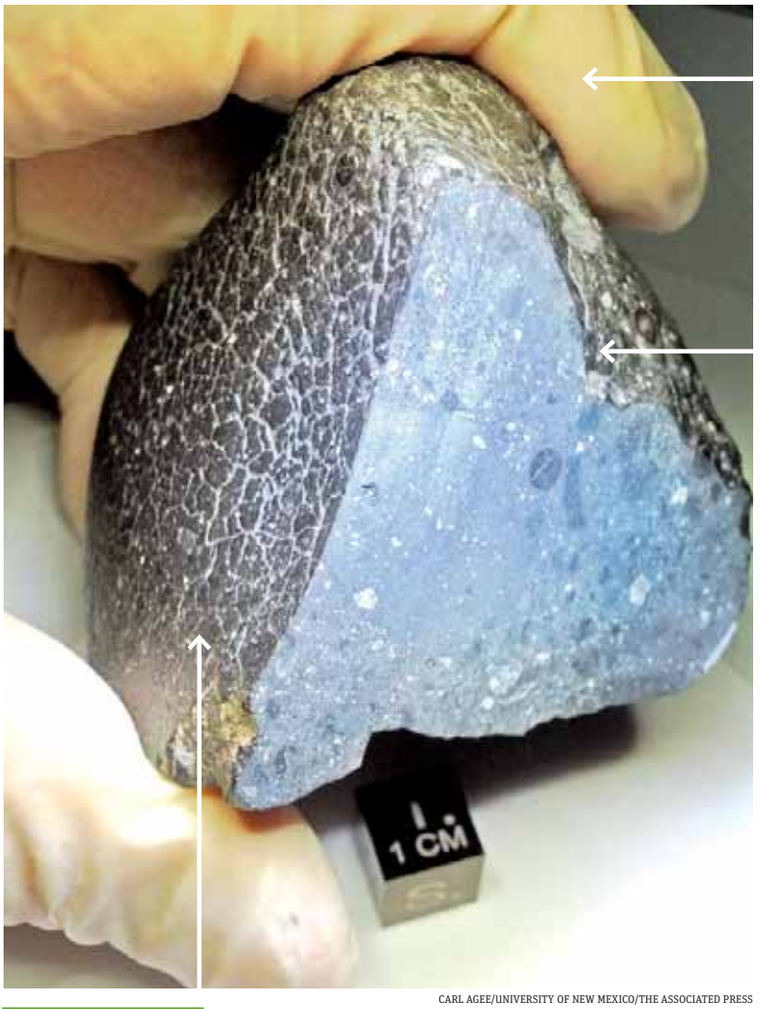
10 **Playdate.** Hugh Hefner, 86, and blushing new bride, 26-year-old Crystal Harris, will celebrate their honeymoon by going on a senior's cruise with her grandparents.

11 **Shut the puck up.** Desperate for action after prolonged negotiations, NHL fans will receive gratification when commissioner Gary Bettman is unsuspectingly body-checked by a large hockey mom. Five million hits on YouTube.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

Sweet grass: Fast Eddy Aki'a of Hawaii smokes a joint as thousands gathered to collectively light up at 4:20 p.m. on April 20, 2012, in Denver. GETTY IMAGES FILE

A little bit of Mars on Earth



CARL AGEE/UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mars-velous meteorite

Black Beauty rocks science world

Scientists are abuzz about this rock from Mars that landed in the Sahara desert: A yearlong analysis revealed it's quite different from other Martian meteorites.

Not only is it older than most, it also contains more water. The baseball-size meteorite, estimated to be two billion years old, is strikingly similar to the volcanic rocks examined by the NASA rovers Spirit and Opportunity on the Martian surface. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Triangular treasure

"Here we have a piece of Mars that I can hold in my hands. That's really exciting."

Carl Agee, director of the Institute of Meteoritics and curator at the University of New Mexico, who led the study published online Thursday in the journal Science

Found in the desert

Rock dated 2nd-oldest Mars find

The latest meteorite, known as NWA 7034 and nicknamed "Black Beauty," was donated to the University of New Mexico by an American who bought it from a Moroccan meteorite dealer last year.

Researchers performed a battery of tests on the meteorite and based on its chemical signature confirmed that it was blasted to Earth from Mars. At 2.1 billion years old, it's the second-oldest known Martian meteorite. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rare and ancient

65
About 65 Martian rocks have been recovered on Earth, mostly in Antarctica or the Sahara.

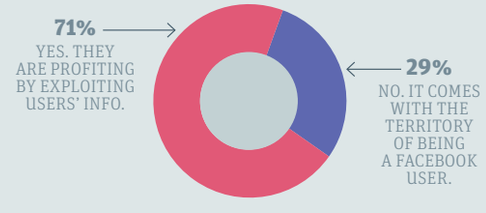
4.5B
The oldest dates back 4.5 billion years to a time when Mars was warmer and wetter.

1.3B
About half a dozen Martian meteorites are 1.3 billion years old, and the rest are 600 million years or younger.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Facebook is being accused of changing privacy settings indiscreetly. Do you care?



Twitter

@TheModeratrix: On my morning walk today, my lip balm froze. On my lips. #just-sayin' #ottawa #weather

@nature_jcp: It's -23C with a windchill of -28 here in #Ottawa. The hydraulic closure on the screen door is frozen. #skreeeech

@mWare: Dear Twitter & Foodies: Where is Ottawa's Bacon Delivery Truck? Why hasn't it visited me yet?

@oh_Rick_Oh: The sidewalks in the city of Ottawa are not cleared very well. Is this another case of saving money by NOT PROVIDING SERVICES?

@donaldsonjd: What started out as free convenient parking space ended up costing $110. Cheers, City of Ottawa - you get all my Christmas money. #fines

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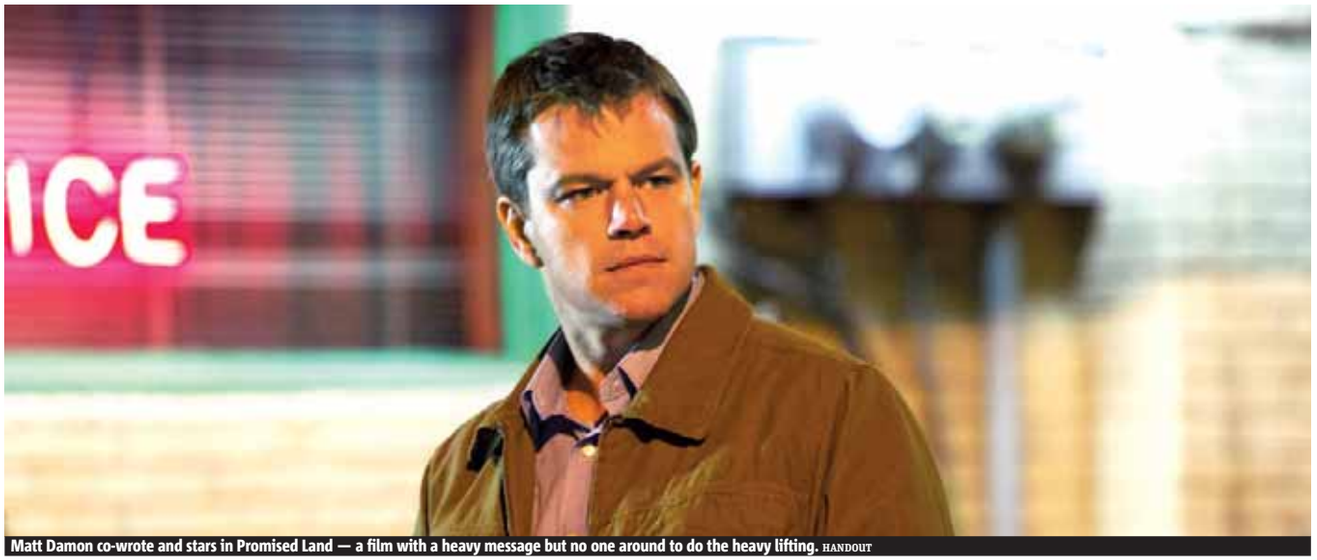

Matt Damon co-wrote and stars in Promised Land — a film with a heavy message but no one around to do the heavy lifting. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Promised Land lost

Sporadic dramatics.
The Reel Guys disagree if this flick walks a good balance of ideals or hits you over the head with its morals

Richard: Mark, Promised Land is one of those message movies you know is going to end with a big speech, so you just hope it's an entertaining ride until the final oration. In this case, I think the movie let its sense of earnestness overpower the entertainment.

It has good, likeable actors in a story that might have been better served in documentary form, rather than the contrived drama presented here.

Mark: Richard, the last thing I would want to watch is a documentary on the effects of gas drilling on farmland communities. The drama may be contrived, but at least it's drama. I liked watching Matt Damon as he slowly realizes his moral complicity in an unsavoury venture. And Frances McDormand was great as his cynical, wisecracking sidekick. Yes, there's a big speech at the end, but you know the rule: when they show a town hall in act one, they're sure going to use it in act three.

RC: I know. And it is just that kind of formulaic filmmaking that kept the joy away for me. Maybe they fell into formula to make people feel comfortable with the amount of info they're being fed. It's hard to make talk of water table pollution dramatic, and while Promised Land makes an attempt by giving much of the heavy lifting to Hal Holbrook, the grand old man of the cast, it's still only as dramatic as a high school science class lecture.

MB: It's a bit more involving than that! The town has to choose between the hard-bitten realism of Damon's character, and the idealism of John Krasinski's interloper. I enjoyed watching the townspeople squirm as they made their choices. It's classic good versus evil, except that it's not. Did you guess the plot twist near the end? It took me by surprise.

RC: I didn't see the plot twist coming ... because it is totally unbelievable! That aside, the movie gets many of the details right — it's set in a town where the general store is called Rob's Guns, Groceries, Guitars and Gas — and its heart is certainly in the right place, but unlike movies like Erin Brockovich, which managed to mix message and medium, Promised Land feels crushed under the weight of its own heavy hand.

MB: Really, Richard, I thought the message was underplayed, especially compared to films like North Country and Silkwood. It's not a great film, even by the standards of bringing an important issue to light, but the performances and texture made it watchable for me.

Synopsis

Matt Damon (who also co-wrote the script with co-star John Krasinski) stars as Steve Butler, a charming salesman sent to a small Pennsylvania farming community to lease land for a giant natural gas company's fracking project. For him, it's a personal crusade; he believes he's transforming the lives of the cash-strapped farmers. For his partner Sue Thomason (Frances McDormand) it's a job that simply keeps her away from her young son. Complicating matters is Dustin Noble (Krasinski), an environmental activist who, as his last name might imply, comes to town to raise the alarm about the real cost of Steve and Sue's business offer.

Star ratings:

- Richard: ●●○○○
- Mark: ●●○○○

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SUN 11am - 5pm
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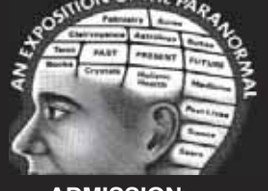

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Drama

Deadfall

Director. Martin Donovan

Stars. Eric Bana, Olivia Wilde

About the most interesting aspect of Deadfall is that it was apparently filmed in a blizzard. Oscar-winning filmmaker Stefan Ruzowitzky (The Counterfeiters) may have visual skill but this derivative, contrived thriller about two sibling thieves (Bana, Wilde) that split up in snowbound Michigan only to reunite at a doomed Thanksgiving dinner complete with hostages is so dour, I'd assumed it was farce if every character weren't so utterly unaffecting.

STEVE GOW

Drama/Sci-Fi

Holy Motors

Director. Leos Carax

Stars. Denis Lavant, Edith Scob, Eva Mendes

As a professional chameleon tooling around Paris in a white stretch limousine, Denis Lavant gives the performance of the year — or actually, eleven of them. Lavant's shape-shifting brilliance (he's an old lady, a monster, a hitman and a motion-capture-suit-clad-martial-artist) makes him a walking analog special effect, and he holds this wild, unruly, impressively ambitious movie together. A must-see.

ADAM NAYMAN

Jessica Chastain's mission impossible

Zero Dark Thirty. There were lots of whispers about Kathryn Bigelow's film on the bin Laden hunt — and its star struggled with keeping secrets...

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Zero Dark Thirty opens next Friday. HANDOUT

Don't let her impressive work in Zero Dark Thirty fool you. Golden Globe-nominated actress Jessica Chastain would make a horrible CIA agent.

It's something she learned not while filming the real-life drama about the hunt for Osama bin Laden, but instead when the film became one of the most scrutinized projects in recent history — even before a frame had been shot. It got so bad that all cast members would tell the press was that director Kathryn Bigelow had made them sign confidentiality agreements ensuring their silence.

"I am the worst at keeping secrets. I'm the kind of person who, the second that I buy someone a Christmas present, I tell them what I bought them. I don't wait till Christmas. I'm not good at it," Chastain explains.

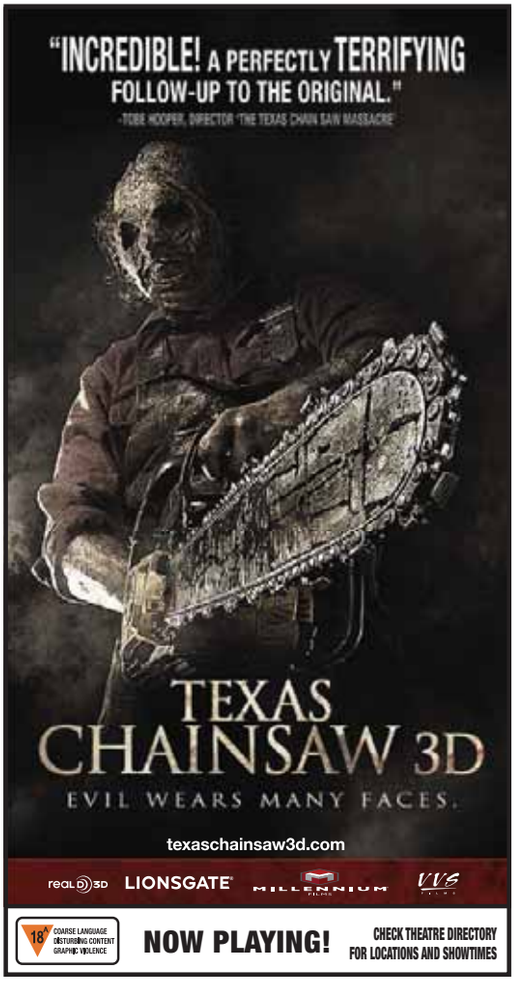
Luckily, there were those confidentiality agreements. "When I was cast in this, I was so excited about this character of Maya. I found her to be really inspiring and the script was incredible, it was so eye-opening. But I had to keep it a secret," she says.

"There was a lot of press coming out and people were speculating that I was (playing) a Navy SEAL wife and all this stuff, and I had to just really hold my tongue for a year. So I'm very excited that people are now seeing the film and they're realizing it's not a propaganda film and it doesn't have an agenda. It just tries to show this moment in history as accurately as possible."

Role research

Playing a mystery woman

One of Chastain's obstacles in tackling the role of Maya was that, while she's based on a real person, there was no way the actress could actually meet her. So she took a different approach to her research. "I had three months before we started shooting that I went to school for it, I guess. I nicknamed (screenwriter) Mark (Boal) 'the Professor.' And I would sit with him and go through the screenplay and ask a lot of questions about the character I was playing, about the CIA," she says. "Because I was never able to meet the real woman it's based on because she's an undercover agent, I had to use my imagination to fill in the blanks where the research couldn't answer the questions."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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN.4 TO THURS., JAN. 10. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Ottawa

Bytowne Cinema
325 Rideau St.

Argo (14A) Fri 6:59 Sat 3:55 Sun 3:25
Holy Motors (14A) Fri 9:30 Sat 1:30-9:30 Sun 6:50 Mon 9:01 Tue 6:50 Wed 8:55 Thu 4:30
The Master (14A) Sun 6:01 Mon 4:15 Tue 9:15
Midnight's Children (PG) Fri 4:01 Sat 6:30
Searching for Sugar Man (PG) Sun 1:30 Mon 7:05
The Sessions (14A) Tue 4:45 Wed 6:50 Thu 9:15
Stories We Tell (PG) Wed 4:30 Thu 6:55

Canadian Museum of nature, 240 McLeod St.

Dinosaur Passage to Pangaea 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:30 Fri-Sun 1:10
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Thu
Tornado Alley 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 10:50-12-1:45-2:20 Fri-Sun 11:25-2:55

Coliseum Ottawa 3090 Carling Ave.

Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Sun 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:35 Mon-Thu 3-6:30-10:05
Gangster Squad (14A) Thu 10
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Sat 8-10:30 Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Wed 5-7:30-10 Thu 7 Thu 4
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Sun 2-5:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:15-6:45-10:15 Fri-Sun 11-2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 6-9:45
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Sun 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Troyens Live (STC) Sat 12
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:10-2:55-6:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:30-9:55
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50 Mon-Wed 4:25-7-9:30 Thu 4:25-9:30
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:35-10:10
Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 10:55 Sun 10:55
Skyfall (PG) Fri 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:50 Sat 7:30-10:50 Sun 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:50 Mon-Thu 3:50-7-10:20
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:20-5:40-8:10-10:30
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30

Empire 7 Cinemas 111 Albert St., 3rd Floor, World Exchange Plaza

Gangster Squad (14A) Thu 10
Hitchcock (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:45-6:50 Mon 3:45-6:50 Tue 12:50-3:45-6:50 Wed-Thu 3:45-6:50
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Wed 9:30
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Thu 3:35
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-6:35-9:35 Mon 6:35-9:35 Tue 12:20-6:35-9:35 Wed 6:35-9:35 Thu
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 11:50-3-6:10-9:20 Mon 3-6:10-9:20 Tue 11:50-3-6:10-9:20 Wed 3-6:10-9:20 Thu 3-6:10-9:15
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 12-3:50-7:30 Mon 3:50-7:30 Tue 12-3:50-7:30 Wed-Thu 3:50-7:30
Not Fade Away (14A) Fri-Sun 12-3:10-6-9:15 Mon 3:10-6-9:15 Tue 12-3:10-6-9:15 Wed-Thu 3:10-6-9:15
Promised Land (14A) Fri-Sun 11:40-3-6:20-9:40 Mon 3-6:20-9:40 Tue 11:40-3-6:20-9:40 Wed-Thu 3-6:20-9:40
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:40-9:25 Mon 3:40-6:40-9:25 Tue 12:30-3:40-6:40-9:25 Wed-Thu 3:40-6:40-9:25

Mayfair Theatre 1074 Bank St.

Bugs Bunny Film Festival (STC) Fri 1 Sun 1-3
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri-Sat 8:30 Sun 6 Mon 8:30
Deadfall (14A) Fri-Sat 6:30 Mon 6:30 Wed-Thu 9
Dr. No (PG) Sat 1 Tue 7
From Russia With Love (PG) Sat 3:15 Tue 9:15
The Goonies (STC) Fri 3:15 Sun 9:30
Smashed (14A) Wed-Thu 7

Mayfair Theatre Orleans 250 Centrum Blvd.

Argo (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-6 Mon 6 Tue 3:30-6 Wed-Thu 6
Flight (18A) Fri-Sun 3:15-8:30 Mon-Thu 8:30
Hitchcock (PG) Fri-Thu 6:15
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Thu 8:15
Samsara (PG) Fri-Sun 3:30-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1-8:45 Mon 8:45 Tue 4-8:45 Wed-Thu 8:45
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:45

Rainbow Cinemas St. Laurent Centre, 1200 St. Laurent Blvd.

Anna Karenina (14A) Fri-Thu 10:20-1-6:30
Argo (14A) Fri-Thu 10:40-6:40-9:10
Flight (18A) Fri-Thu 10:30-7:30
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10
Hotel Transylvania (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10-2:35-4:35
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:10-5:10
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:55-9:25
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Thu 10-2:40-7:10
Red Dawn (PG) Fri-Thu 4:20-9:20
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-6:50-9:15

Rideau Centre Cinemas 50 Rideau St.

Django Unchained (18A) Digital Fri-Sun 1-4:40-8:30 Digital Mon-Thu 4:40-8:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Digital Fri-Sun 12:45 Digital Mon-Thu 4:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:30-8:15 Mon-Thu 8:15
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 4:50-8

South Keys 2214 Bank St.

Charlotte's Web (G) Sat 11
Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Thu 10:45-2:20-6:05-9:30
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45 Sat 4:45-7:15-9:45 Sun-Thu 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:15-8
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Parental Guidance (G) Fri 11:15-1:55-4:35-7:20-9:55 Sat 1:55-4:35-7:20-9:55 Sun-Thu 11:15-1:55-4:35-7:20-9:55
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Thu 10:15-10:50
Skyfall (PG) Fri 3:15-6:30-9:35 Sat 6:30-9:35 Sun-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:35
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 10:40-12:50-3-5:20-7:40-10
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Thu 10:15-1:05-3:55-6:55-10:05
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Thu 10:20-12:45

Gatineau Canadian Museum of civilization, 100 rue Laurier

Arctique 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:55
Flight of the Butterflies 3D (STC) Fri 11:50-2-5 Sat 11:50-2-5-7 Sun 11:50-2-5
L' incroyable voyage des papillons 3D (STC) Fri 10:45-4-7 Sat 10:45-4 Sun 10:45-4-6
L'Express des Rocheuses (STC) Fri 8
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Sat 8
To the Arctic 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 3

Cinéma des Galeries d'Aylmer 400 boul. Wilfrid-Lavigne

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (G) Fri-Thu 3:10-9:10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-6:30 Mon 6:30 Tue-Thu 12:30-6:30
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30 Mon 6:50 Tue-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30
Les Misérables (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon 6:40 Tue-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40
Les Pee Wee 3D: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Thu 3:45-9:45
Les Pee Wee: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-6:40 Mon 6:40 Tue-Thu 12:40-6:40

Ciné-starz 1100 boul. Maloney Ouest

Hotel Transylvanie (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:40-3:20-6:45
L'amour en jeu (G) Fri-Thu 5:15-7:10-9:05
L'aube rouge (13+) Fri-Thu 9:20
L'enlèvement 2 (13+) Fri-Thu 5-8:30
L'ère de glace: La dérive des continents (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:40-3:20-5:45
Les mondes de Ralph (STC) Fri-Thu 12-1:55-3:50-7:25
La mort en douce (13+) Fri-Thu 5-10
Rebelle (13+) Fri-Thu 12-1:45-3:30
Vol (13+) Fri-Thu 6:45

Gatineau 9 120 boul. de l'Hôpital

De rouille et d'os (13+) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:45-6:45-9:30 Mon 6:45-9:30 Tue 1:10-3:45-6:45-9:30
Django Unchained (13+) Fri-Sun 12:40-4-8 Mon 8 Tue 12:40-4-8
Le hobbit : Un voyage inattendu (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:30-8:15 Mon 8:15 Tue 12:45-4:30-8:15
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 12:20-3-6:40-9:25 Mon 6:40-9:25 Tue 12:20-3-6:40-9:25
L'histoire de Pi (G) Fri-Sun 3:20-9 Mon 9 Tue 3:20-9
Massacre à la tronçonneuse 3D (16+) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:25-7:15-9:40 Mon 7:15-9:40 Tue 1:20-3:25-7:15-9:40
Les Misérables (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:15-8 Mon 8 Tue 12:50-4:15-8
Les Pee Wee: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:15-7-9:35 Mon 7-9:35 Tue 12:30-3:15-7-9:35
Surveillance parentale (G) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-7:05-9:20 Mon 7:05-9:20 Tue 1-3:30-7:05-9:20

StarCité Hull 115 boul. du Plateau

007: Skyfall (13+) Fri 3:55 Sun-Tue 3:55
Charlotte's Web (G) Sat 11
De rouille et d'os (13+) Fri-Sun 11:30-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Mon 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 Tue 11:30-2:20-5-7:50-10:30 Wed-Thu 7:30-10:20 Thu 1
Django déchaîné (13+) Fri-Tue 11:30-3-6:30-10 Wed-Thu 6:30-10
Django Unchained (13+) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-7-10:35 Mon 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15 Tue 11:45-3:20-7-10:30 Wed-Thu 6:45-10:15
Gangster Squad (STC) Thu 10
The Guilt Trip (G) Fri 11:15-1:40 Sun 11:15-1:40 Mon 2 Tue 11:15-1:40
Le hobbit : Un voyage inattendu 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:15-3-6:45-10:30 Mon 11:35-3:10-6:45-10:20 Tue 11:15-3-6:35-10:10 Wed-Thu 6:45-10:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-4:15-8 Mon 12:50-4:25-8 Tue 12:40-4:15-8 Wed-Thu 8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 11:45-3:20-6:55-10:30 Tue 11:30-3:15-7-10:30 Wed-Thu 6:55-10:30
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 4-7:15-10:30 Mon 4:20-7:15-10:10 Tue 4-7:15-10:30 Wed 7:15-10:10 Thu 10:10
Life of Pi (G) Fri-Sun 7:35-10:35 Mon 4:40-7:35-10:30 Tue 7:30-10:25 Wed-Thu 7:35-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Troyens Live (STC) Sat 12
Les Misérables (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-3:10-6:40-10:10 Mon 11:50-3:15-6:40-10:10 Tue 11:40-3:10-6:40-10:10 Wed-Thu 6:40-10:10
Les mondes de Ralph (STC) Fri 1:20 Sat 12:30 Sun-Tue 1:20
Monstres, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50 Mon 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:20-9:50 Tue 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50 Wed 7:20-9:50 Thu 7:20
Parental Guidance (G) Fri 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Sat 1-3:25-5:50-8:15-10:40 Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Mon 11:55-2:25-4:55-7:25-9:55 Tue 12-2:40-5:20-7:50-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:25-9:55
Les Pee Wee 3D: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-2:15-5-7:45-10:30 Mon 1:30-4:15-7-9:45 Tue 11:30-2:15-5-7:45-10:30 Wed-Thu 7-9:45
Les Pee Wee: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 11-1:45-4:30 Mon 1:45-4:30 Tue 11-1:45-4:30
Le Petit Monde de Charlotte (G) Sat 11
Le réveil des gardiens (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10 Mon 11:50-2:15 Tue 12:10-2:40-5:10
Ésimésac (G) Fri-Sun 1:05-6:30 Mon 6:30 Tue 1:05-6:30

Barrhaven

Barrhaven Cinemas 131 Riocan Dr.

Charlotte's Web (G) Sat 11
Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Sun 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:35 Mon-Thu 5-8:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Thu 8
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Sat 6:20-10 Sun 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Troyens Live (STC) Sat 12
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:10-2:55-6:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:40
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 6-8:25
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:10
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 12:15 Sun 12:15

Gloucester

SilverCity, 2385 City Park Dr.,

Charlotte's Web (G) Sat 11
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:05-1:45-4:20-7:25-10:10 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:25-10:10
Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Sun 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 3:05-6:50-10:30
Gangster Squad (14A) Thu 10
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri 12:55-3:25-5:45-8:25-10:55 Sat 12:55-8:25-10:55 Sun 12:55-3:25-5:45-8:25-10:55 Mon-Tue 12:55-3:25-5:45-8:25-10:35 Wed 3:25-10:35 Thu 12:55-3:25-5:45-8:25
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Thu 2:35-6:15-10:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:15-7-10:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:15-8
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Sun 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon-Thu 1-4:25-7:20-10:10
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:30-7:30-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:30-7:35-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Troyens Live (STC) Sat 12
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sat 11:25-1:20-3:10-4:55-7:05-8:30-10:35 Sun 11:25-1:30-3:10-4:55-7:05-8:30-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:20-3:10-4:55-7:05-8:30-10:30
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40
Promised Land (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7:15-9:55
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri 11:10-2:05-5:05-7:45-10:25 Sat 7:45-10:25 Sun-Wed 2:05-5:05-7:45-10:25 Thu 2:05-10:45
Skyfall (PG) Fri 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20 Sat 3:40-7:10-10:20 Sun-Thu 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:20
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri 12:10-2:30-5:15-7:55-10:25 Sat 12:05-2:25-5:10-7:55-10:25 Sun 12:10-2:30-5:15-7:55-10:25 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:30-5:15-7:55-10:35
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Mon-Tue 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:40 Wed 4:35-7:40-10:40 Thu 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:40
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Sun 10:55

Orleans

Empire Theatres Orleans 6 Cinemas 3752 Innes Rd.

Django Unchained (18A) Fri-Sun 1-4:30-8:30 Mon 8:30 Tue 1-4:30-8:30 Wed-Thu 8:30
Gangster Squad (14A) , Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:50-7:30 Mon 7:30 Tue 12:10-3:50-7:30 Wed-Thu 7:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-4:20-8 Mon 8 Tue 12:40-4:20-8 Wed-Thu 8
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:55-7-10 Mon 7-10 Tue 12:45-3:55-7-10 Wed-Thu 7-10
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-4-7:45 Mon 7:45 Tue 12:30-4-7:45 Wed-Thu 7:45
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-6:45-9:25 Mon 6:45-9:25 Tue 1:20-4:10-6:45-9:25 Wed 6:45-9:25 Thu 6:45
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Sun 12-3:15-6:50-9:20 Mon 6:50-9:20 Tue 12-3:15-6:50-9:20 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:20
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:40 Tue 1:10-3:40
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Wed 6:15-9:30 Thu 9:30
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:20-7:15-9:50 Mon 7:15-9:50 Tue 12:20-3:20-7:15-9:50 Wed-Thu 7:15-9:50
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:30-6:30-9:40 Mon 6:30-9:40 Tue 12:15-3:30-6:30-9:40 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:40

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Justin Bieber ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Celebs call for tougher paparazzi rules in wake of photographer's death

The 29-year-old photographer had just snapped shots of Justin Bieber's white Ferrari when he was struck and killed by a passing car — a death that has spurred renewed debate over dangers paparazzi can bring on themselves and the celebrities they chase.

The accident prompted some stars, including the teen heartthrob himself, to renew calls for tougher laws to rein in their pursuers, though previous urgings have been stymied by First Amendment protections.

The Los Angeles County coroner's office confirmed Thursday that the photographer was Christopher James Guerra.

"Hopefully this tragedy will finally inspire meaningful legislation and whatever other necessary steps to protect the lives and safety of celebrities, police officers, innocent public bystanders and the photographers themselves," Bieber said in a statement released by Island Def Jam Music Group.

Much of Hollywood was abuzz about the death, including Miley Cyrus, who sent several tweets critical of some of the actions of paparazzi and lamenting that the unfortunate accident was "bound to happen."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Worst celebrity tattoos

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

In honour of the news that Lil' Wayne got "Baked" tattooed above his right eye (aren't you glad he doesn't have a real job? Can you imagine him sitting in front of HR?), The Word is compiling some of the worst celebrity tattoos.

Scarlett Johansson got this wrist tattoo last year that has "I Love NY" written inside the "charm." At this point in her career, can't she get a bracelet that's removable?

Kelly Osbourne has skull and crossbones, complete with pink bows, on her feet. Next time she critiques someone else's choices on Fashion Police, remember this.

Lindsay Lohan's "shhhh" finger tattoo isn't really working for her, is it?

Ke$ha opens up about dating men ... and women

Ke$ha tells the latest issue of Seventeen that she doesn't look at the sex of a person she wants to date, she looks at the whole person. "I don't love just men. I love people. It's not about a gender. It's just about the spirit that exudes from that other person you're with," she says.

She also recounts how she uses setbacks she experienced earlier in her life to motivate herself.

"I remember every person who told me I couldn't do something or that I was ugly or too fat. I have a 's— list' — people from my past who have been soulless and judgmental. ... I see them now and I'm like, 'Ha!'"

Twitter

@ChrisColfer
Happy New Year everyone! Hope 2013 is everything you want it to be! Unless you're a Mayan enthusiast, then my condolences.

@azizansari
RAMP UP 2013 RIGHT NOW, THROW ON MARK MORRISON'S RETURN OF THE MACK RIGHT NOW

@ConanO'Brien
To ring in the New Year, I'm heading to D.C. to watch Congress drop the ball. #whatdoyoumeanimthe5000000thpersontomakethisjoke?

@KatieCouric
In 2013 I am going to try to declutter my life. Floss more. Write more handwritten thank you notes. What about you??

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Give the beef a break and reach for bison

Seared Bison with Sage and Gnocchi.

Red meat alternative is gaining popularity

Now is the perfect time to venture down the culinary path with bison, an alternative red meat that is showing up at more and more grocers.

So let's start with the name. The critter you know as the American buffalo really isn't one at all. Turns out the American buffalo (technically a bison) is more closely related to your run-of-the-mill cow.

Bison meat (which is raised without hormones or antibiotics) can be incredibly tender and flavourful, with a sweet, rich beefy flavour.

It also happens to be amazingly lean, packing fewer calories and less fat than beef and even skinless chicken.

That low-fat profile comes with a price, however. Like any lean meat, bison has a tendency to cook quickly, so quickly that it's easy to overcook it. And that is why bison has a reputation for being tough. It isn't. If you have bison that is tough, that just means it was overcooked.

You can use bison much as you would beef. The trick is to modify the cooking method (rather than the flavours or other ingredients) to account for the leanness. Here, it's used with Italian potato gnocchi.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 lb package gnocchi pasta
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- 1 1/2 lbs bison steak, thinly sliced across the grain
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh sage
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and ground black pepper

1. Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a boil. Add the gnocchi and cook according to package directions. Reserve 1/4 cup of the cooking water, then drain the gnocchi and set aside.

2. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the garlic and red pepper flakes, then sauté the garlic for 30 seconds.

3. Add the steak and sear on each side for about 1 minute. Don't crowd the pan or the steak will steam rather than sear. If needed, work in batches.

4. Once the steak is seared, add the sage and cooked gnocchi. Cook for 30 seconds, then add the Parmesan. Drizzle in just enough of the reserved cooking water to form a sauce with the melted cheese. Toss, then season with salt and pepper. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquid Assets

2013 booze resolutions

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Well here we are, 2013. Over the holidays, I had more than a few glasses of wine in hopes of finding some inspiration for an appropriate life changing 2013. Unfortunately, all I could come up with were some boozy alternative resolutions to losing weight and managing money better for you, dear readers.

Drink local: There are independent wineries, distilleries and breweries filling bottles with unique liquids in your province. Find, buy and drink.

Get social: Share what you're drinking with your old high school mates and ex-significant others on Twitter or Facebook. Words not your thing? Post a picture. It will last longer.

Channel your inner food fetish: Pick a recipe, any recipe, find a beverage that works with it (just email me, I'll tell ya) and put both in your mouth.

Return to the white side: Reds have been the darling of vinophiles for long enough. In 2013, rediscover the subtle sophistication of something white. Try starting with Fazi Battaglia's 2011 Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico ($10.99 to $14.99) – an aromatic, green-fruited Italian with a refreshingly acidic zing. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Going wild for pasta

Wild boar has an assertive flavour, somewhere between pork and venison. The basic guideline: Use it in boldly flavoured dishes just as you would pork and venison. The point isn't to mask the flavour, but to pair it with ingredients that don't get smothered by it.

Where to begin? Try it in this ragu over fettuccine.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 large carrot, grated
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 lbs ground wild boar
- 1 cup red wine
- 15-oz can tomato sauce
- 6-oz can tomato paste
- 1 lb fettuccine pasta
- 2 tbsp chopped basil
- 1 tbsp fresh oregano
- Salt and ground black pepper
- Grated Parmesan cheese, for serving

1. In saucepan over medium-high, heat olive oil. Add onion, carrot, celery and garlic. Sauté 6 mins., or until onion is translucent.

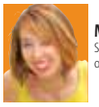
2. Add boar and cook until browned, 10 mins. Add wine and cook, scraping pan, until wine has mostly evaporated. Add tomato sauce and paste. Bring to simmer; cook 10 mins.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3. Bring saucepan of salted water to boil. Add fettuccine; cook according to package.

4. When pasta is done, stir 1/4 cup of its cooking water into sauce. Drain pasta and transfer to serving bowl. Stir basil and oregano into ragu, then season with salt and pepper. Ladle over pasta. Top with Parmesan cheese. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.



MIX OF SIX
Samantha Everts
ottawa@metronews.ca

Billy Elliot

Your toes will be tapping as you leave the NAC after seeing the Broadway musical classic Billy Elliot. With music penned by Elton John, the story of a poor English boy who traded boxing gloves for ballet slippers will resonate with the whole family with mind-boggling choreography and talented young actors. Friday to Sunday. nac-cna.ca/broadway.

Jazztronic with Lance Baptiste

Don't you dare break out jazz hands to attend this ultra-cool dance party in the Market. Every Friday night Mercury Lounge hosts three DJs in just as many levels (with internationally acclaimed DJs often visiting this legendary soiree). DJ Lance Baptiste spins organic jazz to tech house at the club level. Mercurylounge.com

Slim Moore and the Mar-Kays

Do you have soul? Dance it back to the funky beats and retro grooves of Slim Moore and the Mar-Kays, who play music in the vein of Marvin Gay or any Nile Rodgers hit. The Canadian combo includes backing brass and vocals steeped in a raw, passionate sound. Saturday. slimmoore andthemarkays.com

Karaoke with China Doll

Before resigning to a Saturday date night with Netflix, consider these options: Delicious Chinese food at a family-run restaurant, Godzilla-themed cocktails and drag queen China Doll egging you on to join in Fleetwood Mac karaoke duets all in one place. From Abba to Weird Al, they've got the songs. Fridays and Saturdays. shanghairestaurantottawa.com.

The Creeps

One of Ottawa's longest running punk rock bands, The Creeps, take to the Babylon stage Saturday night to rock out faster than the Ramones can play with poppy, Weezer-like hits. Halifax's Outtacontroller open the show with DJ Skid Vicious spinning indie and new wave dance jams for Night Moves afterward. Saturday. thecreeps.bandcamp.com.

Vodou Exhibit

However you spell it, Vodou is a mysterious and misunderstood practice that the Museum of Civilization has tackled in this worthwhile exhibit of hundreds of the greatest Vodou artifacts from around the world. As you learn about the rituals and discover rich histories and culture, you'll forget about dolls with pins in them. Until Febuary 2014. civilization.ca/vodou.

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Lockout

NHLPA wastes little time in restarting 'disclaimer' process

Less than a day after letting a self-imposed deadline pass to declare a "disclaimer of interest," NHL players began voting to restore their executive board's authority to dissolve the union.

The NHLPA's membership began voting on the disclaimer at 6 p.m. ET on Thursday, according to a source. It will be conducted over a 48-hour period.

The first vote, held last month, passed overwhelmingly. Should the same thing happen again and the NHLPA elects to notify the league it is disclaiming, it would open the door for players to file anti-trust lawsuits.

The new disclaimer vote was part of a day that saw much more action away from the bargaining room than in it. The NHLPA also filed its statement of defence with the district court in New York, arguing that the lawsuit filed by the NHL last month should be dismissed because it was brought forward for "strategic reasons."

Against that backdrop, the sides only met for about an hour on Thursday afternoon — a departure from more frequent negotiations recently. NHLPA special counsel Steve Fehr led a group of players and staff into the session with U.S. federal mediator Scot Beckenbaugh. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHLPA special counsel Steve Fehr GETTY IMAGES FILE

An inglorious end to Canada's gold hopes

World juniors. Talent-laden Canadians' title drought extended to four years in Russia

An NHL lockout has helped lift Canada to gold at past world junior hockey championships.

But not this time.

Canada dominated en route to gold in 1995 and 2005 when the NHL also locked out its players.

Another labour stoppage this year meant coach Steve Spott had most of the country's top 19-year-old talent available to him.

But bronze is the best this Canadian team can do after a 5-1 loss to the United States in Thursday's semifinal.

The Americans and defending champion Sweden will play for gold, while Canada takes on the hosts for bronze Saturday in Ufa, Russia. The Swedes edged Russia 3-2 in a shootout in the other semifinal.

Canada must find solace in extending its run of medals in this tournament to 15 consecutive years.

"We've got to come home with a medal," captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins said. "It's not the one we want to come home with, but we've got to do it for our country."

Canada beat the U.S. and Russia en route to finishing first in Pool B at 4-0 to earn a bye to the semifinal. But for the second straight year, Canada failed to parlay the bye into a berth in the gold-medal game.

"For it to happen again, it's pretty heartbreaking," said second-year forward Mark Scheifele.

The International Ice Hockey Federation is doing away with the bye starting in 2014, so the tournament will feature four quarter-finals instead of two.

So while the Americans flexed their scoring muscles in a 7-0 win over the Czech Republic in Wednesday's quarter-final, the Canadians vowed after practice the same day they couldn't have a slow start Thursday.

But they went out and did just that. The firepower that Canada purportedly had up front did not fire.

Scheifele, Jonathan Huberdeau and Ryan Strome would probably have joined Nugent-Hopkins in the NHL this season if not for the lockout. All four were held off the scoresheet.

When Spott chose his 23 players at selection camp in Calgary last month, he said he did so with speed in mind. It was the Americans who made Canada look like they were standing still for two periods Thursday.

Led by Calgary Flames prospect John Gaudreau and captain Jake McCabe, the U.S. beat Canada to the puck at both ends of the ice for 40 minutes to build a 4-0 lead.

Unlike last year's 6-5 semifinal loss to Russia in Calgary, where Canada scored four third-period goals, this Canadian team didn't rally to make it close. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, right, hangs his head with teammates after being defeated 5-1 by Team USA on Thursday in Ufa, Russia. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

What to watch for on Saturday

A glance at Saturday's bronze-medal game between Canada and Russia (4 a.m., TSN):

- **Ryan Nugent-Hopkins** — Held off the scoresheet in semifinal loss, Canada's captain needs to create scoring chances on top line.
- **Jonathan Drouin** — A chance for 17-year-old forward to further raise his stock for the NHL draft.
- **Nikita Kucherov** — Forward for the QMJHL's Rouyn-Noranda Huskies leads Russians in scoring.
- **Nail Yakupov** — Has been guilty of trying to do too much on his own. Time to start distributing the puck.

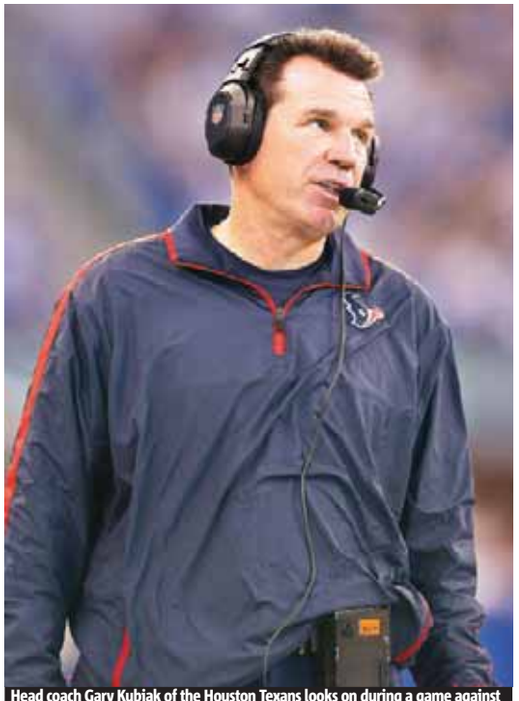
By the numbers

3

Playing a quarter-final doesn't seem to be an impediment to world-junior gold. Three of the last five champions played a quarter-final.

4 SPORTS

Who's afraid of the wild-card round?



Head coach Gary Kubiak of the Houston Texans looks on during a game against the Indianapolis Colts on Dec. 30 in Indianapolis. The Colts defeated the Texans 28-16. Houston lost three of its last four games and must now play in the wild-card round of the NFL playoffs. JOE ROBBINS/GETTY IMAGES

NFL. One of the Super Bowl participants in six of last seven years didn't start the playoffs with a bye week

NFL teams have no fear of playing in the wild-card round.

Recent history shows the playoff bye isn't such a big deal anymore. In six of the last seven years, one of the Super Bowl participants didn't get a bye to begin the post-season. And five of those teams wound up winning the NFL title.

So Green Bay's blowing the bye by losing to Minnesota last Sunday might not be such a setback. Same for Houston, which had an even bigger fall, fumbling away home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs as well as the week off, by losing three of its last four.

Of course, Texans coach Gary Kubiak recognizes the week-to-week nature of pro football, and how things can change quickly in seven days — and last for a month, right to a championship.

"That's life, and that's part of football," Kubiak said. "How'd you play last week? How have you played the last few weeks? What have you done lately? That's our world. We understand that, and it hasn't been good the last few weeks, so hopefully we get it better."

Nobody knows how to achieve that improvement more than the Packers. Two years ago, they barely squeezed into the playoffs, then raced to three road victories and then a title win over Pittsburgh.

"I'd have preferred a week off, to be honest with you," Packers receiver Jordy Nelson said. "But we put ourselves in this situation throughout the whole year. It's not just this last game.

"Whatever it takes, we just have to win from here on out."

That begins Saturday night at Lambeau Field against Minnesota. Had the Packers beaten the Vikings last Sunday, they would be sitting at home this weekend watching the Bears play at San Francisco. Instead, they will trudge onto the tundra to face rushing king Adrian Peterson, who ran around, through and over them for 199 yards to get the Vikings into the playoffs.

The Vikings had no chance for a bye; they never really were in the chase for the NFC North title. They're just glad to be in the tournament, knowing that the Steelers, Colts, Packers and Giants (twice) recently covered the lengthier route to the NFL championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The cool thing about the playoffs is that once you get in, anything can happen." Defensive end Jared Allen and his Minnesota Vikings just got in the playoffs as the No. 6 seed in the NFC

Hot teams

Some teams already are on winning streaks.

- Denver has won 11 straight to grab the top spot in the AFC.
- Washington takes a seven-game winning streak into Sunday's home game against Seattle, winner of five in a row.

Playoff analysis

Rushing puts teams over the top

As much as the NFL is a passing league, it still helps to be able to run the ball.

In playoff games during the Super Bowl era, teams with a 100-yard rusher are 157-37, a .809 winning percentage, while teams with a 300-yard passer are 57-66, only .463, according to STATS LLC.

The Redskins and Seahawks — who play each other Sunday — and the Vikings are unabashedly putting emphasis on running. That trio of playoff participants had the league's top rushers in Adrian Peterson, Alfred Morris and Marshawn Lynch.

The top three quarterbacks in yards passing, meanwhile, are done for the season: Drew Brees, Matthew Stafford and Tony Romo.

Says Washington's Santana Moss: "When you really want to win games, you have to have both parts of your offence working, the air and the ground."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	22	8	.733	—
New York	21	10	.677	1½
Atlanta	20	10	.667	2
Indiana	19	13	.594	4
Chicago	17	13	.567	5
Milwaukee	16	14	.533	6
Brooklyn	17	15	.531	6
Philadelphia	15	18	.455	8½
Boston	14	17	.452	8½
Toronto	12	20	.375	11
Orlando	12	20	.375	11
Detroit	12	22	.353	12
Charlotte	8	23	.258	14½
Cleveland	7	26	.212	16½
Washington	4	26	.133	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	24	7	.774	½
San Antonio	26	8	.765	—
L.A. Clippers	25	8	.758	½
Memphis	20	9	.690	3½
Golden State	22	10	.688	3
Houston	18	14	.563	7
Denver	18	15	.545	7½
Portland	16	15	.516	8½
Minnesota	14	14	.500	9
Utah	16	17	.485	9½
L.A. Lakers	15	16	.484	9½
Dallas	13	20	.394	12½
Sacramento	12	20	.375	13
Phoenix	12	21	.364	13½
New Orleans	7	25	.219	18

Thursday's results
San Antonio at New York
Minnesota at Denver
Wednesday's results
Toronto 102 Portland 79
Brooklyn 110 Oklahoma City 93
Chicago 96 Orlando 94
Houston 104 New Orleans 92
Golden State 115 L.A. Clippers 94
Indiana 89 Washington 81
Memphis 93 Boston 83
Miami 119 Dallas 109 (OT)
Phoenix 95 Philadelphia 89
Sacramento 97 Cleveland 94
San Antonio 117 Milwaukee 110
Utah 106 Minnesota 84
Friday's games — All Times Eastern
Sacramento at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Boston, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Miami, 8 p.m.
Portland at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Houston at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

LATE WEDNESDAY

RAPTORS 102, TRAILBLAZERS 79

PORTLAND (79)
Batum 4-12 2-2 10, Aldridge 7-12 0-0 14, Hickson 1-4 0-0 2, Lillard 6-13 5-6 18, Matthews 4-7 2-3 12, Freeland 4-6 3-3 11, Claver 1-2 0-1 2, Price 1-2 0-0 2, Babbitt 1-4 1-1 4, Barton 0-1 0-0 0, Pavlovic 1-3 0-0 2, Smith 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 31-70 13-16 79.
TORONTO (102)
Pietrus 0-4 0-0 0, Davis 9-12 1-4 19, Gray 0-0 0-0 0, Calderon 0-1 0-0 0, DeRozan 11-17 1-1 24, Johnson 7-12 3-3 17, Anderson 2-9 0-0 4, Lowry 0-2 0-0 0, Fields 3-4 1-1 7, Ross 8-14 4-6 26, Acy 0-0 2-2 2, Lucas 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 41-77 12-17 102.

Portland	**17**	**22**	**22**	**18 —79**
Toronto	**24**	**31**	**23**	**24—102**

3-Point Goals—Portland 4-22 (Matthews 2-4, Babbitt 1-4, Lillard 1-5, Claver 0-1, Pavlovic 0-2, Batum 0-6), Toronto 8-23 (Ross 6-9, Lucas 1-2, DeRozan 1-3, Calderon 0-1, Anderson 0-2, Lowry 0-2, Pietrus 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Portland 38 (Aldridge 10), Toronto 45 (Johnson, Davis, Fields 7). Assists—Portland 19 (Lillard 7), Toronto 34 (Calderon 13). Total Fouls—Portland 18, Toronto 20. Technicals—Acy. A—18,117 (19,800) at Toronto.

NFL

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
AFC — Cincinnati at Houston, 4:30 p.m.
NFC — Minnesota at Green Bay, 8 p.m.
Sunday's games
AFC — Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
NFC — Seattle at Washington, 4:30 p.m.

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 12
AFC — Baltimore, Indianapolis or Cincinnati at Denver, 4:30 p.m.
NFC — Washington, Seattle or Green Bay at San Francisco, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 13
NFC — Washington, Seattle or Minnesota at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
AFC — Baltimore, Indianapolis or Houston at New England, 4:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, Jan. 20
AFC and NFC, TBA

IIHF WORLD JUNIORS

CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

Thursday's results
SEMIFINALS
U.S. 5 **Canada 1**
Sweden 3 Russia 2 (SO)
Wednesday's results
QUARTER-FINALS
U.S. 7 Czech Republic 0
Russia 4 Switzerland 3 (SO)
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
FIFTH PLACE
Czech Republic vs. Switzerland, 8 a.m.
Saturday's games
BRONZE MEDAL GAME
Canada vs. Russia, 4 a.m.
GOLD MEDAL
Sweden vs. U.S., 8 a.m.

RELEGATION BRACKET

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pt
Finland	2	2	0	0	0	13	1	6
Slovakia	2	1	1	0	0	7	4	5
Germany	2	0	0	1	1	1	10	1
Latvia	2	0	0	0	2	4	10	0

Thursday's result
Slovakia 5 Latvia 3
Wednesday's result
Finland 8 Germany 0
Friday's games
Latvia vs. Germany, 4 a.m.
Finland vs. Slovakia, 8 a.m.

U.S. 5, CANADA 1

First Period
1. U.S., McCabe 2 (Reilly, Barber) 7:18.
2. U.S., McCabe 3 (Grimaldi, Trochek) 16:02.
Penalties — None.
Second Period
3. U.S., Gaudreau 6 (McCabe, Gibson) 2:58
4. U.S., Vesey 1 (Gaudreau, Miller) 12:44
Penalties — Nugent-Hopkins Cda (slashing) 6:48, Murphy US (tripping) 9:46, Reinhart Cda (high-sticking) 14:20, Camara Cda (high-sticking) 18:54.
Third Period
5. Canada, Rattie 3, 4:03 (sh)
6. U.S., Gaudreau 7 (Vesey, Miller) 5:41
Penalties — Sheifele Cda (kneeing), Sieloff US (handling the puck) 0:48, Canada bench (too many men; served by Ritchie) 2:57, Gaudreau US (high-sticking) 9:55, Camara Cda (high-sticking) 15:56, Danault Cda (kneeing) 18:58, Reinhard Cda (cross-checking) 20:00.
Shots on goal by

U.S.	12	12	16 — 42
Canada	8	10	16 — 34

Goal (shots-saves) — U.S.: Gibson (W, 4-2): Canada: Subban (L,4-1, 16-12), Binnington (12:44 second; 26-25).
Power plays (goals-chances) — U.S.: 0-6; Canada, 0-2.
Attendance — 4,781 (8,250) at Ufa, Russia.

MLB

Former Blue Jays reliever signs with Rangers

Setup reliever Jason Frasor signed a $1.5 million U.S., one-year deal Thursday with the Texas Rangers.

The 35-year-old right-hander spent most of his career with Toronto, setting a Blue Jays franchise record with 505 appearances since his major league debut in 2004.

METRO

Italian soccer

Racist chants mar friendly match

A friendly match between AC Milan and lower-division club Pro Patria was abandoned Thursday after Milan's players walked off the pitch because of racist chants, the latest incident of racial abuse blighting the sport in Europe.

After repeated chants directed his way, Ghana midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng picked up the ball and kicked it at a section of the crowd in the 26th minute of the first half.

Boateng then took off his shirt and walked off with his Milan teammates. Urby Emanuelson, Sulley Muntari and M'Baye Niang were also targeted by the chants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis. Raonic loses a slug fest in Brisbane

Canadian Milos Raonic made an early exit at the Brisbane International on Thursday, dropping a 6-3, 6-4 decision in his opening match to Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., conceded just three points on his own first serve in the second-round match-up, but was unable to put pressure on his opponent's first serve. Dimitrov won all 26 of his first-serve points in the 61-minute match.

The second-seeded Raonic is 13th in the world rankings, 35 positions ahead of the Bulgarian. Dimitrov will next play No. 7 Jurgen Melzer of Austria, who posted a 6-4, 7-6 (4) win over David Goffin of Belgium.

Meanwhile, Serena Williams had a tough win over the woman she's predicting will one day top the rankings, setting up a semifinal match against current No. 1 Victoria Azarenka.

The reigning Wimbledon, U.S. Open and Olympic champion showed plenty of emotion on key points in a heavy-hitting duel with Fed Cup teammate Sloane Stephens on Thursday before winning 6-4, 6-3.

Williams converted both break points and fended off one break chance against her in each set, later saying Stephens had the potential to be "the best in the world one day."

The 19-year-old Stephens accepted the warm praise from Williams, her childhood idol.

"To have someone like that who I think is one of the greatest players to ever play the game say that about you is really nice," Stephens said. "I lost to the best player in the world today, so, you know, it's good."

Olympic and U.S. Open champion Andy Murray was pushed before winning his opening match 6-1, 5-7, 6-3 against Australian qualifier John Millman, who finished last year ranked No. 228.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milos Raonic plays against Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria on Thursday in Brisbane, Australia. GETTY IMAGES

Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
If you have been thinking about taking a trip or arranging your next vacation now is the time to get serious about it. Don't go where other people want you to go – go where you feel most inspired.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
It may feel as if something good is going out of your life, and maybe it is, but something equally good will replace it within a matter of days. Don't worry: Lady Luck is still on your side.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have only to put a name to your dreams to see them come true. Can it really be that easy? Yes it can. Believe that you deserve the best and you will surely get it over the next few days.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
No doubt you wish you could close your eyes and ears to the chaos and confusion that is taking place around you but you can't, so you might as well get used to it. Maybe you should just get more involved.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You need to feel that you are doing something useful with your talents and today's Mars-Jupiter link will encourage you to reach out into the world and make a difference in some way. You can be a force for change.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will find it surprisingly easy to get your way on the work front today. Colleagues and employers seem to think that you can do no wrong and if you are smart you will make the most of it.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't let anyone tell you that you are aiming too high today. If anything you are still not aiming high enough. Mars and Jupiter combine in such a way now that no challenge is too much for you.

Scorpio
Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22
You will have to make some big decisions over the next 24 hours and the good news is you will make them quickly and decisively. Financially and professionally you can and you must put your own needs first.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Partnership sand relationships are under good stars today, so reach out to friends and family and let them know how much you enjoy their company. A social event of some kind will bring you all closer together.

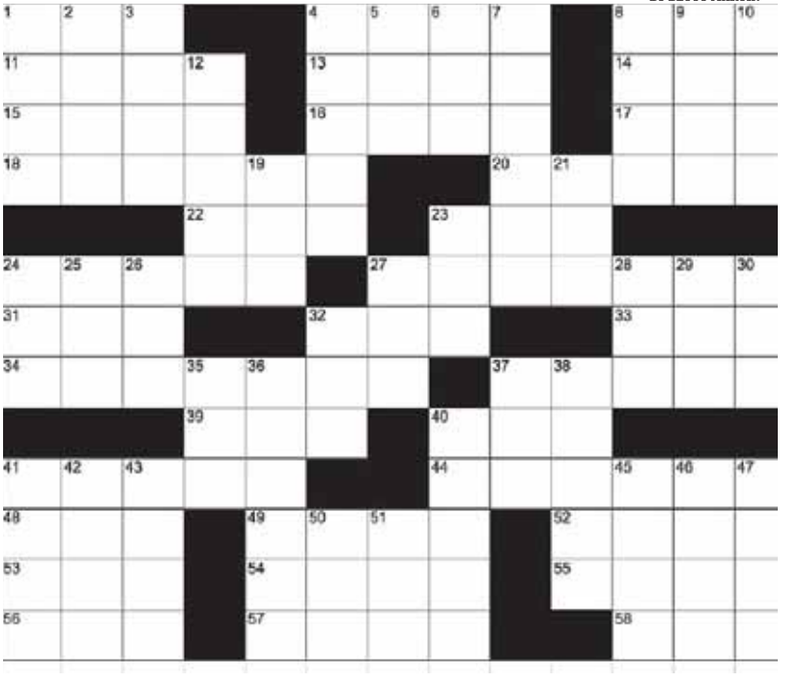
Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You feel stronger than you have for a long time and that's good, but don't suddenly push yourself beyond your natural limits because your body may not be able to take it. You are allowed to rest you know.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your luck will change for the better today. Not that it was bad before but suddenly everything seems to be going your way again. What is it you desire most? Focus on it and soon it will be yours.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It may seems as if your life is heading down a predestined course but that isn't strictly true. You can change your destiny any time you choose, but first you need to believe that it's possible. Start believing today. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

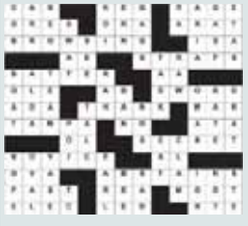
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. – – snail's pace (2 words)
4. Halt
8. Calendar square
11. Clammy
13. Luau fare
14. Devoured
15. Solo
16. Sharif of "Funny Girl"
17. Heavy weight
18. Paper border
20. Mine transports
22. Summer on the Riviera
23. "Anna and the King" actress Ling
24. Not quite right
27. On the same family tree
31. Get into
32. Police dept. rank
33. Spanish gold
34. Playing field
37. Inclined
39. Air quality org.
40. Where the buoys are
41. Give a speech
44. Cell phone feature
48. Buddy
49. Close by
52. Baby buggy
53. St. crosser
54. Jazzy Fitzgerald
55. Sediment
56. Superman foe Luther
57. Regard
58. Old video game letters

Down
1. Role for David Canary on All My Children
2. "Gone with the Wind" plantation
3. Eastern title
4. "Romancing the —"
5. Tartan topper
6. Openings (anat.)
7. Grand entrance
8. Facts
9. Wee bit
10. Strong desires
12. Book contents
19. TGIF part
21. Inlet
23. Wager
24. Total up
25. Reply from Miss Piggy
26. – — funk (moody)
27. Lipstick colour
28. Also
29. Shore bird
30. Forest female
32. Genetic initials
35. How I — Your Mother
36. Started the bidding
37. Stew ingredient
38. Highway exits
40. "Get lost!"
41. October birthstone
42. Great review
43. Role for Michael J. Fox
45. Emerald Isle
46. Breathing sound
47. Qtys.
50. Letter after ka in Spanish
51. Bar order

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

5					3			
4				5		3	9	
9		1			6			
7	2	8				1		
6								8
		4				6	3	7
			7			5		2
	1	7		2				3
			9					6

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	2	3	8	4	7	5	1	6
6	7	5	3	2	1	9	4	8
1	4	8	5	6	9	7	3	2
3	9	6	7	1	8	2	5	4
8	1	7	2	5	4	6	9	3
2	5	4	6	9	3	8	7	1
5	3	1	9	8	6	4	2	7
4	8	9	1	7	2	3	6	5
7	6	2	4	3	5	1	8	9

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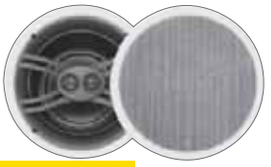

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